I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. ER147057632US, in an envelope addressed to: NS Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: November 17, 2003 Signature:

Docket No.: HO-P02190US1 (PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Nicholas Thomas, et al.

Application No.: 10/650,412

Art Unit: N/A

Filed: August 28, 2003

Examiner:

For: MICROFABRICATED APPARATUS FOR

CELL BASED ASSAYS

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.

11/20/2003 EHAILE1 00000116 10650412

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B

Docket No.: HO-P02190US1

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Nicholas Thomas, et al.

Application No.: 10/650,412

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Examiner:

For: MICROFABRICATED APPARATUS FOR

CELL BASED ASSAYS

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are the following items for filing in connection with the above-referenced Patent Application:

- 1. Second Preliminary Amendment (8 pages)
- 2. Fee Transmittal (1 page)
- 3. Return Postcard.

Our check in the amount of \$117 for 13 extra claims is enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 06-2375, under Order No. 10104195.

Dated: November 17, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa W. Acosta

Registration No.: 45,872

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(713) 651-5246 (FAX)

PTO/SB/17 (10-03)

Approved for use through 7/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Address the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Compl te if Known FEE TRANSMITTAL 10/650.412 Application Number for FY 2004 Filing Date August 28, 2003 First Named Inventor Nicholas Thomas Effective 10/01/2003, Patent fees are subject to annual revision. Not Yet Assigned **Examiner Name** Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27 N/A Art Unit TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$) 117.00 HO-P02190US1 Attorney Docket No METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply) FEE CALCULATION (continued) х Check Other None 3. ADDITIONAL FEES Order Deposit Account Large Entity Small Entity Deposit 06-2375 Fee Description (\$) Code (\$) Code Fee Paid Number Deposit 1051 130 2051 65 Surcharge - late filing fee or oath Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. Account Name Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover 1052 50 2052 25 The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply) sheet. Charge fee(s) indicated below X Credit any overpayments 1053 1053 130 130 Non-English specification 1812 2,520 1812 2,520 For filing a request for ex parte reexamination Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s) Requesting publication of SIR prior to 1804 920* 1804 920* Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee Examiner action Requesting publication of SIR after to the above-identified deposit account 1805 1.840 1805 1.8401 Examiner action FEE CALCULATION 1251 110 2251 55 Extension for reply within first month 1. BASIC FILING FEE 1252 420 2252 210 Extension for reply within second month Large Entity Small Entity 1253 950 2253 475 Extension for reply within third month Fee Fee Fee Fee **Fee Description** Fee Paid 1254 1,480 2254 740 Extension for reply within fourth month (\$) 1001 770 2001 385 Utility filing fee 1255 2.010 2255 1.005 Extension for reply within fifth month 1002 340 2002 170 Design filing fee 1401 330 2401 165 Notice of Appeal 1003 2003 530 265 Plant filing fee 1402 330 2402 Filing a brief in support of an appeal 165 770 1004 2004 385 Reissue filing fee 1403 290 2403 Request for oral hearing 1005 160 2005 Provisional filing fee 80 1451 1,510 1451 Petition to institute a public use proceeding 1452 110 2452 Petition to revive - unavoidable SUBTOTAL (1) 0.00 1453 1,330 2453 Petition to revive - unintentional 2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE 1501 1,330 2501 Utility issue fee (or reissue) 1502 480 2502 240 Design issue fee Fee Pald Claims below Total Claims 33 -20** = 13 9.00 117.00 1503 640 2503 320 Plant issue fee Independent 3 -3 0.00 1460 130 1460 130 Petitions to the Commissioner Multiple Dependent 1807 50 1807 50 Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q) 1806 1806 180 180 Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt Large Entity Small Entity Recording each patent assignment per Fee Description 8021 40 8021 40 Code (\$) Code (\$) property (times number of properties) Filing a submission after final rejection 1202 2202 18 9 Claims in excess of 20 1809 770 2809 385 (37 ČFR 1.129(a)) 1201 86 2201 43 Independent claims in excess of 3 For each additional invention to be 1810 770 2810 385 1203 290 2203 Multiple dependent claim, if not paid examined (37CFR 1.129(b)) 1204 86 2204 ** Reissue independent claims 1801 770 2801 Request for Continued Examination (RCE) over original patent Request for expedited examination 1802 900 1802 900 1205 2205 Reissue claims in excess of 20 of a design application and over original patent Other fee (specify) SUBTOTAL (3) (\$) SUBTOTAL (2) (\$) *Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid 0.00 **or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above (Complete (if applicable)) Registration No. (713) 651-5407 Name (Print/Type) Melissa W. Acosta 45,872 Telephone Attorney/Agent) Signature Date November 17, 2003

Fee Transmittal

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Dated: November 17, 2003

Signature:

Mua(Staci Harris)